

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Rolf ECKMILLER

Appl. No. 10/056,208  
Confirmation No. 6905

Filed: January 28, 2002

For: RETINAL IMPLANT WITH  
IMPROVED IMPLANTATION  
AND WORKING PROPERTIES



Art Unit: 3762

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Atty. Docket No. 39491-177858

Customer No.



26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

34  
L. Park  
5-4-02  
#5/Pre  
Am dt. B

**Preliminary Amendment**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the fees, please amend the claims as follows:

*In a new line preceding Claim 1, please insert the following new line:*

I claim:

*Please cancel Claims 1-6 without prejudice and add the following new claims:*

- B1
7. (New) A retinal implant comprising:
    - at least one internal functional unit arranged for being disposed inside an eye;
    - at least one external functional unit arranged for being disposed outside the eye; and
    - a signal path designed for at least one of signal and data transmission that connects the at least one internal functional unit to the at least one external functional unit, the signal path comprising a separable trans-scleral signal-path segment between the internal and external functional units, and wherein the signal path between the internal and external functional units does not incorporate the anterior eye section, including the cornea and intraocular lens.
  8. (New) The retinal implant according to Claim 7, wherein the signal path comprises a wireless inductive connection comprising:
    - at least one transmission element arranged for being disposed outside the eye; and
    - at least one reception element arranged for being disposed inside the eye,
    - wherein, when disposed outside and inside the eye, respectively, the at least one